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STRANGLERS

READ THIS...READ THIS...READ THIS...READ THIS...READ THIS...READ THIS...READ THIS...READ THIS...



the
stranglers

INSIDE

SINGLES REVIEWS. 'GRIP' REVIEWED.

EXCLUSIVE STRANGLERS INTERVIEW

LIVE REVIEWS.. STRANGLERS ON
THE ROAD.

NEWS.. STRANGLERS SIGN WITH UA.

EDITORIAL

The reasons that motivated us to start up STRANGLED are manifold, but a couple are startlingly obvious. Firstly boredom with all the pathetic and boring music that continues to swamp this country. Secondly the desire to actually go out and do it rather than just let other people pretend to make good music. Another aim we have with STRANGLED is to make something a bit more permanent out of it...make it a regular thing, for which we need your help with any ideas and articles you have.

Thanks to all those who have assisted in getting STRANGLED off the ground... Andrew and Judith at UA, Pete, Derek, Ian and Dai at ALBION, Tony Moon and of course Hugh Cornwell, Jean Burnel, Dave Greenfield and Jet Black for the initial inspiration.

STRANGLED was put together by Alan Edwards. Any further ideas, news, reviews or anything appreciated - ring Alan on 402-3248.

the T-Shirt that stopped the gig.....



Lead STRANGER Hugh Cornwell seen sporting the following logo on his shirt at recent Rainbow gig. The promoters seemed to see fit to turn off all the power during the set as they found the above logo offensive....

INTERVIEW WITH HUGH AND JOHN.

The TRANGLERS are not just another group, the STRANGLERS are an unforgettable experience. The STRANGLERS play long, hard, complex and harded. The songs are very basic and hard hitting, yet still with enough thought and imagination to make them stand out from most of the other so-called 'new wave' material. Since their conception about a year and a half ago as the Guilford "TRANGLERS" Hugh Cornwell (guitar), John Burnell (bass), Dave Greenfield (keyboards) and Jet Black (drums) have gone from strength to strength. Summer '76 saw the TRANGLERS play successful support dates at the Roundhouse and Hammer with Odeon with Patti Smith, and it was not long after this that they started moving up from the 'pub scene' (Ted Low etc) to concert hall status (Barquee, Roundhouse, Rainbow). Their hard work was rewarded with a recording contract from United Artists in December, and they have subsequently recorded a single, titled 'Get A Grip Of Yourself' and released on the 28th Jan, and an album.

Although things are looking rosy for the TRANGLERS now, things have not always gone smoothly. They played 184 gigs last year, and many of them were by no means prestigious such as a Young Conservatives dance they played in Surley where 780 people walked out.

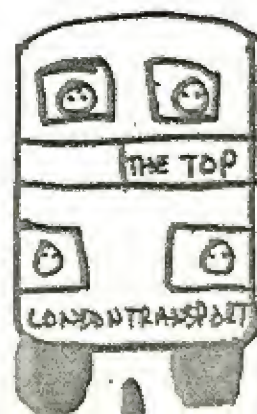
John Burnell and Hugh Cornwell continue the story.

- Q. Did you find it hard going on the gig circuit last year?
- J. There was a particularly bad riot at Bangor, when six big rugby players started causing trouble. However they coped out from having a go at us and ripped up the van instead. I also remember an unpleasant gig in the East end where they threw sharpened 10p pieces at us.
- H. The strangest one of all was Binswells, the supposedly hip piteapot, where they received 50 letters of complaint about our language, style etc after we played there.
- J. Aylesbury was supposed to be the centre of the scene, and Jet the drummer got a bottle on his head!
- Q. So all in all you were really having a hard time.
- H. Oh terrible, it was too straight. They wanted long guitar solos which they weren't getting so people were walking out.
- Q. Surely this was very worrying for you?
- J. Not really, we never bothered about it. We knew it was going to take time, it always does when you're doing something new.
- Q. Who does the songwriting in the group?
- H. Someone gets an idea and we all work on it. We have a marxist principle about our songwriting.
- Q. Do you have any particular influences on your composition?

STRANGLERS EXCLUSIVE CONT.

- H. Music is what you make of it. An artist reflects the environment he's in, if he's committed enough he may even want to change it.
- S. Change what?
- J. You name it, let's walk down the street and we'll see a few things. The most obvious thing is to fight the conspiracy to bring everybody down to the common denominator. There seems to be a vested interest in bringing 'thinkers' down to the level of morons.
- S. You intend to try and improve things?
- J. What's the point in making pretty little noises, you might as well use a vibrator. We were all told that rock was supposed to make you think about things, but it hasn't lately, it's just to titillate now!
- C. What influences the STRANGLERS musically, your sound isn't exactly conventional is it?
- H. My mum and dad, no seriously though it's good to listen to everything. If you don't like something you know why. My influence on my guitar playing is my limitations. I can only do certain things so it causes me to have a certain style. Hendrix was great he made it sound like it was talking. When I hear an LP I may not like the whole thing, but sometimes there are certain aspects I like.
- J. I hate Steely Dan, but on a couple of albums there are some really good guitar pieces.
- S. How do the STRANGLERS see their future. How will they cope with success?
- H. The future we see as being tomorrow and the day after. The future doesn't exist, because when you reach the day it's present. We're building up a following throughout the country and I can see it grow and grow.

STRANGLER also sees a bright future for the STRANGLERS. Hopefully a lot more people will get to hear the STRANGLERS through their records and live gigs this year because music of this calibre deserves the widest possible audience!



STRANGLERS PIN UP



HUGH
(GUITAR)

DAVE
(KEYBOARDS)

SET
(DRUMS)

SOHN
(BASS)

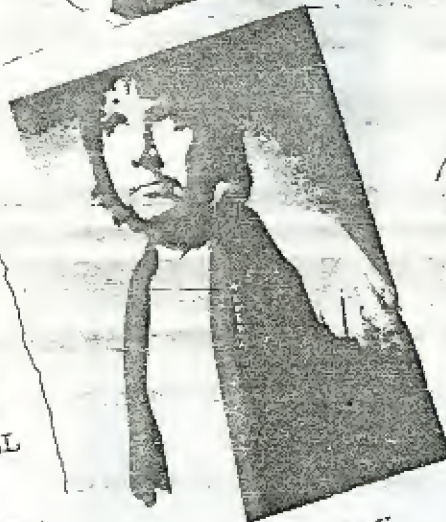
ODDZ + SODZ

Cortinas, new Bristol based punk band who made their London debut recently at the Roxy, highly rated by Hugh Cornwell.....Hope and Anchor to reopen on Feb 10th.....The STRANGLERS use "otacound because "they're British and best".....Derek Savage (Albion)'s wife releasing baby to coincide with release of Stranglers album scheduled for late February.....on the subject of babies...congratulations to Ian Grant's wife Debbie (Ian is another Albioner) on the birth of her baby.....James 'Hugh' John Jet Dave 'Grant'.....disregard rumours of of disagreement between the STRANGLERS and Danned, after December gig at 100 Club. They are best of mates, and in fact John..

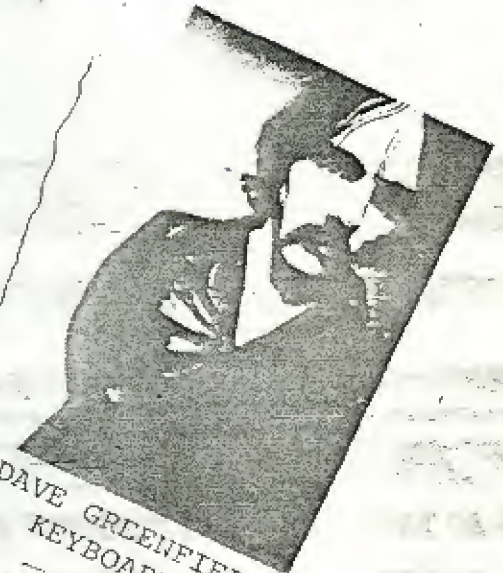
HUGH CORNWELL
GUITAR/VOCALS



JEAN JACQUES BURNELL
BASS/VOCALS



JETT BLACK
DRUMS



DAVE GREENFIELD
KEYBOARDS

Scabies spent together in each others club.....'Grip'.

Stretch producer (also Shirley Bassey!).....Jon Ingham not particularly enamoured with STRANGLERS single, nor evidently the David Soul record which Jon did not seem to think was particularly praiseworthy. The single was released over 2 months ago, and is currently in the top ten...could this be a good omen for Grip.....Bad news for STRANGLERS after recent Roxy gig when club was burgled and approx 1500 STRANGLEROTES was removed.....STRANGLERS somewhat berused at the recent Rainbow show reaction....could the GLC and other officials be better employed doing something useful like "making the buses run on time" wonders Jett Black.....More hot gossip next week...worth sorry..

Strangler and Rat a pleasant evening company after the 100

produced by Martin Rushent, one time